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NEWSLETTER VOL. 3



CITIZEN BAND POTAWATOMI INDIANS

ROUTE 5, BOX 151 — SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

MEETING

The last General Council Meeting was held at St. Gregorys College June 30, 1973 and a record turn-out was present. The highlights of the meeting was the attorneys reports and the tribal elections. Our Tribal attorneys reported that in Docket 217 the time to appeal has run and the award is now final. It has been certified by the Commission and the next step is a request by the Treasury Department to Congress to include this award in either a supplemental or special appropriation bill. It would be very helpful if tribal members would write their congressman for their support in getting this appropriation bill passed. All other dockets are now pending and when further progress is made on them the current news will be passed on the tribal members through the newsletters. At present there are approximately nine more claims against the federal government on behalf of the Citizen Band Potawatomi and the tribal attorneys are working on all of them. Some of these may be in the near future for payment and some may be combined for payment. Please read the article on "Claims and Payments" in your Tribal Handbooks, as this will help you to better understand the procedures and process of claims. If all goes well and the appropriation and distribution bills are passed without any difficulty, Docket 217 should be paid out in about a year. You as a tribal member can help by keeping me informed of your current address and name changes. Also inform any tribal member you know to keep their addresses up to date. To make any changes on the records, please write, Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribal Office, Mrs. Beverly Hughes, Route 5 Box 151, Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801.

ELECTION

The Council elected two new Councilmen and a new Chairman. The present tribal officers are as follows; Chairman, Jerry R. Fox, Vice-Chairman, Raymond Peltier, Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Beverly Hughes, Councilmen, Mr. John Barrett and Mr. Leon Bruno. These officers were elected to serve all tribal members and if at any time you need their advice or help they will be most anxious to assist you. You may contact any of the officers by writing the tribal office.

TRIBAL AFFAIRS

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribal Offices are located on tribal owned grounds, just east of Mission Hill Hospital between Shawnee and Tecumseh, Oklahoma. One of our tribal owned rental houses has been remodeled and is now our Tribal Office. Our staff includes a Tribal Administrator, Mr. Paul Schmidtkofer, Tribal Secretary, Mrs. Beverly Hughes and Office Clerk, Mrs. Sue Alcorn. Office hours are from 8:00 til 5:00 Monday through Friday and if you are ever in the area feel free to come by the Tribal Office as we would be most happy to assist any of our tribal members. If you are in the area and cannot locate the Tribal Office, call 275-3125 and we will give you directions. The tribal rolls are maintained here and all correspondence comes to this office.

ID CARDS & TRIBAL HANDBOOKS

Many tribal members have written in for their ID cards and Tribal Handbooks, but there are still a great number that have not received

theirs. If you would like an ID card and a Tribal Handbook you must write requesting these or come by the Tribal Office. These are not being sent to members unless they request them by mail or phone or in person. The reason for this is that there are still a large number of incorrect addresses and we feel we would be wasting postage to send them in a general mailing. If you do not receive this newsletter, then you may have an old address on the records. The newsletter is being sent to all heads of household. The ID cards and handbooks are free to all tribal members. However, some of you have sent money for postage and I would at this time like to thank those of you that have helped with the cost of postage as we are operating on limited funds this year. This is not necessary but does help and we do appreciate your concern.

HANDCRAFTS & BEADWORK

The Citizen Band Potawatomi Tribe is remodeling and modernizing the Tribal Community House with hopes of opening a permanent Handcrafts Workshop. Instructors are needed and if you or anyone you know is interested have them write or come by the Tribal Office. This program is urgently needed to preserve our Potawatomi culture and heritage and we have hopes of expanding this program in the near future.

COMMUNITY HEALTH REPRESENTATIVES (CHR)

The CHR Program has been in effect for the Potawatomi Tribe since March of 1969. Our Tribal CHR's are; Mary Ann Wheeler, Jewell Bruno and one vacancy. The new CHR or CHR Director hired by the tribal Business Committee will leave for training the last of October. CHR training consists of three weeks at Desert Willow Training Center near Tucson, Arizona. The CHR's are very resourceful to the Potawatomi people as they help not only with medical needs but also help with physical, mental and environmental problems. The CHR's are now going into the field making home visits trying to contact all Potawatomis living in the Shawnee area jurisdiction. Some of these areas include Harrah, Lexington, Purcell, Choctaw and Jones, Oklahoma. They will advise you of all services available to you through Indian Programs and carry with them medical, home improvement and housing applications. The CHR's are on duty from 8:00 til 5:00 and are on call 24 hrs. a day. You may contact the CHR's through the Tribal Office. Plans are being made for the CHR's to hold workshops in the local area and these workshops should be very informative.

INDIAN ACTION TEAM

The Indian Action Team Program is now in full operation. The program is still looking for an instructor in masonry and an Administrative Assistant with construction experience. At present there are six students from the Potawatomi tribe. They are; Donald Lewis, James Smith, Steve Schmidkofer, Michael Taylor, Earl White and Jerry Slattery. On the staff from the tribe are John Barrett, Director; Jerry Fox, Heavy Equipment Instructor, and Leon Bruno, Electrical Instructor. Applications for students, instructors, and Administrative Assistant can be obtained at Central Tribes of the Shawnee Area Inc., P. O. Box 2427, Shawnee, Oklahoma, 74801, or contact the tribal office. C.T.S.A. will soon be generating profits to give back to the five member tribes through another corporation, CTSA Enterprises. The Citizen Band Potawatomi own a 1/5 interest in all profit making projects of CTSA. The School facilities are located south of the Indian Health Service Clinic.

REVENUE SHARING FUNDS

The tribe has recently purchased some office equipment with Revenue Sharing funds and hopefully these funds will allow the tribe to purchase a copy machine and a postage machine within the next few months.

The next Newsletter will be released sometime in January, 1974.